

Celebrate Elwha

September 2011



Welcome

Natural Wonders Never Cease



September 2011 brings a new chapter for the Elwha River and the ecosystem it supports. Welcome to the official ceremony marking the beginning of the removal phase of the Elwha River Restoration project.

Removal of the Elwha and Glines Canyon dams will reopen more than 70 miles of pristine spawning and rearing habitat, most within Olympic National Park and reintroduce a vital food source to the wild, protected valley ecosystem.

These dams have played a vital role in the history and development of the Olympic Peninsula, harnessing the river's energy to produce power for the past 100 years. Dam removal and restoration is bringing new opportunities for regional growth and vitality, and cultural healing and renewal for the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe.

The National Park Service and our many partners thank you for your contributions to this project and your attendance today.

Watching

Elwha River Restoration

While the events of today mark a culmination of many years' effort, much work – and the restoration of the Elwha River ecosystem – remain in the future. We invite you to watch with us as we work and learn from this one-of-a-kind living laboratory.

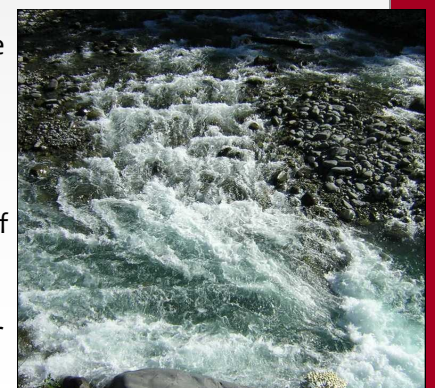
Check in frequently at the Olympic National Park website at www.nps.gov/olym – click on 'Elwha River Restoration' for extensive background information, our dam removal blog and a link to all six Elwha River Restoration webcams. The park's website will also feature short web videos to highlight the progress and people of Elwha River Restoration.

Follow 'Elwha River Restoration' on Facebook and share our posts and pictures with your friends!

If you're in the area, you can check on the dam removal progress at Elwha Dam by visiting the Elwha Dam Viewpoint trail. A short trail starts from Lower Dam Road (near the Elwha Dam RV Park) and leads to a viewpoint overlooking the dam. The first section of the trail is ADA accessible.

The National Park Service hopes to provide public viewing of the Glines Canyon Dam removal through organized educational tours. Check the park's website for updates – more information about this possibility will be available spring 2012.

You can learn more about Elwha River Restoration at a variety of park and partner sites throughout the area. Orientation panels and site maps are located on the City Pier in Port Angeles, at the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribal Center, Olympic National Park Visitor Center and in the Elwha Valley area of Olympic National Park.



Special Recognition and Thanks



Restoration of the Elwha River, and the start of dam removal today, would not be possible without the contributions of activists, administrators, tribal members, scientists, elected officials and other public servants, many in attendance today. Today's ceremony in recognition of this milestone is made possible with planning, logistics and financial support from a diverse team of partners.

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Program Today's Schedule

Arrival & Seating.....	Musical Prelude Port Angeles High School Chamber Orchestra (directed by Ron Jones) Port Angeles High School Jazz Ensemble (directed by Doug Gailey)
11:00 a.m.	Welcome by Tom Skerritt
11:05 a.m.	National Anthem led by Vocal Unlimited, Port Angeles High School (directed by Jolene Dalton Gailey)
11:08 a.m.	Dance and Song by Elwha Dance Group
11:28 a.m.	Blessing by Ben Charles, Sr.
11:30 a.m.	Introduction by Karen Gustin and Tom Skerritt
11:35 a.m.	Personal Reflections Jon Jarvis, National Park Service Director Michael Connor, Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Maria Cantwell, U.S. Senator Patty Murray, U.S. Senator Norm Dicks, Congressman
12:00 p.m.	Musical Interlude by Eliza Gilkyson
12:06 p.m.	Personal Reflections Frances Charles, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribal Chairwoman Chris Gregoire, Washington Governor Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior
12:20 p.m.....	Musical Celebration: Drop of Water by Dana Lyons , accompanied by Vocal Unlimited (lyrics found on page 4)
12:30 p.m.....	Closing Remarks by Tom Skerritt

Sing Out A Drop of Water

By Dana Lyons

There's a drop of water on the wall
And the drop's about to fall
and it falls into a trickle

And the trickle's flowing down
Down, down to the ground,
And the moss begins to grow

Watch, watch, watch, watch the water flow

And watch the current become a stream
Busting through the seams
Cracking through the concrete

Bending down the steel
In a raging that is real
A tearing torrent you can feel
Feel the thunder growing, thunder underground

And in my heart, the chains falling apart
The wildness in my soul
And for once in life, for once in life I know

I'm not alone, for the mountains make our bones
With the oceans in our blood
Our feet planted, planted firmly in the mud

We are alive, the burning embers in our eyes
The tingling touch upon our skin
And in the heat of passion we begin to understand

That we are of this land,
That we are part of Earth
and when its threatened we will fight
for all we're worth

We watch the dam, the dam come crashing down
Water rushing to the sea

And now the river is free

Ceremony Artists Local Musicians

Port Angeles High School Chamber Orchestra, directed by Mr. Ron Jones

Abby Bohman	Kaitlin M. Fairchild	Trey J. Hoover
Meg Bohman	Aaron M. Froese	Selbey J. Jelle
Kyle C. Bozich	Connor M. Gouge	Sam A. Langley
Roisin D. Cowan-Kuist	Elizabeth A. Helwick	Jesse A. Major
Tarah L. Erickson	Erin B. Hennessey	Natalie F. Orr

Port Angeles High School Jazz Ensemble, directed by Mr. Doug Gailey

Erin Beard	Loren Henry	Kapono Rogers
Jack Doryland	Nick Johnson	Michaela Rogers
Sophy Doryland	Jeffrey Mordecai-Smith	Lukas Saskowsky
Erik Eyestone	Malachi Mulhair	Bryan Schlinkmann
Jackie Gipe	Brandon Notar	Chase Sharp
Marlee Glatz	Luis Peña	Cole Urnes
Elias Hardman	James Reick	Curry Winborn
AJ Hatfield	Jessalyn Rogers	

Vocal Unlimited is a select chamber choir of 21 singers from Port Angeles High School, and is directed by Mrs. Jolene Dalton Gailey

Derrick A. Akin	Kimberley C. Littlejohn	Chace W. Souza
Brandi A. Bird	Tyler R. Napiontek	Nikki J. Stidham
Tyler D. Burke	Kaitlyn T. Palacios	Oswaldo Swagerty
Amanda M. Burton	Anna G. Roth	Abyy K. Walder
Forrest L. Emmett	Jordan G. Sanders	Elijah S. Ward
Troy K. Gallagher	Daylin D. Scott	Mckenna E. Young
Blayke L. Hartman	Philip D. Scott	

Ceremony Artists

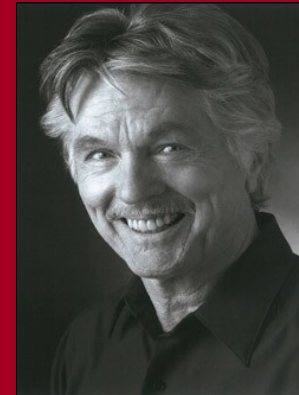
Eliza Gilkyson



Eliza Gilkyson is a politically-minded, poetically-gifted singer-songwriter, who has become one of the most respected musicians in folk and Americana music circles. Few singer-songwriters have been able to combine social consciousness with musicality as well as Eliza.

Special Appearances

Tom Skerritt



Actor, director, co-founder of The Film School in Seattle, and American Rivers board member Tom Skerritt is passionate about healthy, free-flowing rivers. When asked what rivers mean to him, and why fly-fishing is one of his favorite pastimes, Tom said that it's "for the peace it gives me in feeling the rush of the river's current on my legs, in the mystery of flushing out a big rainbow from that dark spot over near that big rock in the middle of the flow and secretly hoping that if I hook him, he'll beat me and win."

Klallam Drum & Dance Group

Klallam Culture Lives Strong...

The Culture of the Strong People lives on through the Klallam Drum & Dance Group. But also in many ways...the teachings of our ancestors...the ages range from birth on up...



Dana Lyons



Dana Lyons is the singer/songwriter best known for his dynamic performances and outrageous hit songs "Cows With Guns," "RV" and "Ride The Lawn." Bringing together a mix of comedy, ballads and love songs, Dana's sharp wit and beautiful voice have him performing at concert halls, festivals, conventions, fundraisers and universities across the US and around the world.

Jake Seniuk

The **Eternal Return** is a photomural created by Jake Seniuk to serve as a backdrop for the Elwha reclamation ceremony. As the dams fade into history the body of a great fish acts as a window to the river's source in the Olympic backcountry.



With the region's mythic legacy alive in a face inspired by aboriginal art, the montage crafted from more than a dozen photographs recalls tales of a time when the salmon were so dense that one could cross the fabled river stepping on their backs. Celebrating the epic life cycle of the salmon, **The Eternal Return** augurs a time of cosmic renewal of all things as the gyre of nature turns. Seniuk is an artist whose photographic installations have been exhibited in museums and galleries across America. Since 1989 he has served as director and curator of the Port Angeles Fine Arts Center, where he has created some 140 provocative exhibitions of Northwest masters and emerging artists. Since 2000 he has shepherded a unique blend of art and nature in the Center's magical Webster Woods Art Park.



Celebrate Elwha! Dam Walkway Artists

- ❖ **Artists:** Olympic Peninsula YMCA “Y’s Kids” Summer Camp, under the direction of Cathy Haight.
Banner: “Good Bye Dam – Welcome Back Salmon!” 28 Port Angeles area children participated in a week-long artistic exploration to create a group banner in celebration of the Elwha Dam removal project.
- ❖ **Artists:** Elwha Tribal Youth ~ Young Artists assisted by teachers Jamie Valadez and Luana Arakawa.
- ❖ **Artist:** GAY WHITMAN ~ **Banner:** “Stump’s King.” Born and raised in Port Angeles, Gay celebrates her late father-in-law and the prosperity of all salmon in the Elwha and waterways up and down the Pacific Coast.
- ❖ **Artist:** DAVID BERGER ~ **Banner:** “Going Upstream (Prayers for the Elwha).” David lives in Seattle. His banner combines contemporary and traditional Northwest Coast idioms.
- ❖ **Artist:** JESSICA DODGE ~ **Banner:** “Flux.” Jessica looks for universally familiar symbols and imagery to use in her art. She is excited to celebrate the freeing of the Elwha River.
- ❖ **Artist:** DANI LABLOND ~ **Banner:** “Leap of Faith.” As a resident of the Olympic Peninsula, Dani is inspired by the thought of salmon returning to ancient spawning grounds.
- ❖ **Artist:** CHRISTINE HELLA COTT THOMPSON ~ **Banner:** “Dance of Life.” Christine lives and works in Olalla, Washington. To her freeing the Elwha means the dance of life can once more flow as nature intended.
- ❖ **Artist:** DONA CLOUD ~ **Banner:** “Something Fishy.” Dona lives in Clallam County. Her banner was inspired by the myth of salmon waiting at the mouth of the Elwha, primed to return up the river to spawn.
- ❖ **Artist:** LEO E. OSBORNE ~ **Banner:** “Infinity Salmon.” Leo lives on Guemes Island in Washington. This work represents a need to listen to the cycles of life in nature and to share with all beings this beautiful green-blue planet. We are all ONE.
- ❖ **Artist:** LYN SMITH ~ **Banner:** “A New Day.” In her banner, Lyn tried to represent the Elwha River as it has lived throughout the millennium. She loves the “heaven” she calls home – the Olympic Peninsula.
- ❖ **Artist:** PAMELA HASTINGS ~ **Banner:** “Water of Life.” Pamela, whose studio overlooks the Strait of Juan de Fuca, has used a bold graphic style with words to express the vital part that water plays in all of Life.
- ❖ **Artist:** KAREN DeWINTER ~ **Banner:** “Crow River Blessing.” This project allowed Karen to imagine the beautiful Elwha River flowing unimpeded again. The crows, it seems, would gladly bless this event.
- ❖ **Artist:** ANNA WIANCKO-CHASMAN ~ Anna has been a professional artist for over half her life. Her inspiration comes primarily from nature, and she has been creating salmon for over two decades.
- ❖ **Artist:** LAURA ALISANNE ~ **Banner:** “Welcome Home.” Laura is an artist, sculptor, writer and graphic designer informed and inspired by her greatest and most enduring teacher: Nature.
- ❖ **Artist:** MALIA MERCER ~ **Banner:** “Elwha Be Free.” For Malia, it was love at first sight for the Elwha and the Olympic Peninsula. Her banner represents all six salmon species spilling out from a crack in the dam.
- ❖ **Artist:** SARAH TUCKER ~ **Banner:** “New Shores.” Sarah is a local multimedia artist, film maker and performer. Her inspiration for this banner is the anticipation of new shore lines along a healthy river.
- ❖ **Artist:** DOUGLAS PARENT ~ **Banner:** “Passage.” Douglas has been drawing and painting since he was very young. He feels it is a great privilege to be part of the celebration of the Elwha River’s new life!
- ❖ **Artist:** MELODY F. CHARNO ~ **Banner:** “Celebrate the Salmon.” The Elwha project inspired Melody to paint swimming salmon on a yellow background, which represents wisdom, joy and happiness.
- ❖ **Artist:** SHERILYN SEYLER ~ **Banner:** “Welcome Home.” Sherilyn has found the Elwha restoration to be a sign of the human spirit, as we work to restore the river system.
- ❖ **Artist:** BARBARA SLAVIK ~ **Banner:** “Cascadian Flag.” Barbara is an artist and educator from Port Angeles. Her paintings and mixed media works have been exhibited up and down the west coast.
- ❖ **Artist:** PAM SCHOONOVER-RUSSELL ~ **Banner:** “Elwha Tribal Tribute.” Pam is both a zoologist and artist. In science as in art, she observes and interprets her observations.
- ❖ **Artist:** SUSAN SUMMIT CYR ~ **Banner:** “Home Again.” Susan paints primarily on silk, the perfect canvas for a depiction of a beautiful web of life finally being woven back together.
- ❖ **Artist:** MARGOT VOORHIES THOMPSON ~ Margot is an artist from Portland, Oregon.

Our thanks are extended to **Karen Hanan**, Executive Director of Arts Northwest and our arts consultant and planner, **Anna Wiancko-Chasman**, professional artist and visual arts coordinator for the walkway art banners, **Rebecca Redshaw**, author of “I Wonder,” **Jolene Gailey**, Musical Director of Port Angeles High School’s Vocal Unlimited, **Doug Gailey**, Musical Director of the Port Angeles High School Band, **Ron Jones**, Director of the Port Angeles High School Orchestra and **Dave Bukovnik**, Childers Bukovnik Construction, for stage and walkway art work set up.